The High Level Committee (HLC) has considered the matter and decided to defer the decision on items relating to housing and road sectors, for want of area-wise details from the Government of West Bengal. In respect of the other sectors, assistance of Rs. 478.27 crore from NCCF has been approved.

Multi-purpose Identity cards

505. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to issue Multi-purpose Identity Cards to all the citizens in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when Multi-purpose Identity Cards are likely to be provided to the citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) The Government has proposed to create a National Population Register (NPR) in the country for which details on specific characteristics of each individual shall be collected at the time of 2011 Census. Besides this information, there will be photographs and finger biometrics of all those who are 18 years of age and above. The NPR for the coastal villages in 9 maritime States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal and 4 Union Territories (UTs) of Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Pudducherry, will be created ahead of 2011 Census during 2009-10, as one of the measures to strengthen the coastal security. The scheme for direct data collection in the coastal villages has been approved by the Government. Identity (smart) cards, are proposed to be issued to all those usual residents in these coastal villages who are of 18 years of age and above.

Status of coastal security scheme

506. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of coastal security scheme;

(b) whether all the infrastructure promised under the scheme has been provided to all the States and Union Territories;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay;

(d) whether Government is facing difficulty in procuring the speed boats etc. required/promised under the scheme; and

(e) what efforts are being made to procure the speed boats etc. in time and by when everything will be in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) A comprehensive Coastal Security Scheme, which is a supplemental initiative, was approved in January, 2005 for implementation over a five year period commencing